

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-21 are pending and rejected in this application.

Claims 1, 14 and 19 were provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 1-8 of U.S. Patent No. 6,564,130. Claims 2-13, 15-18 and 20-21 are rejected by virtue of their dependence on claims 1 and 14. With this paper, a Terminal Disclaimer under 37 C.F.R. §1.321(C) is submitted. The double patenting rejection therefore is rendered moot.

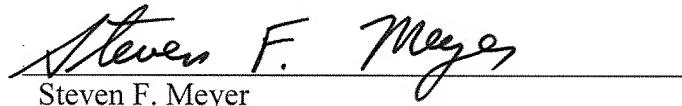
CONCLUSION

For the above-stated reasons, this application is respectfully asserted to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable examination on the merits is requested. In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate the examination of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY ADDITIONAL FEES WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED FOR THE TIMELY CONSIDERATION OF THIS AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 AND 1.17, OR CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 13-4500, ORDER NO. 5000-4723.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

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